

STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS:

AIDS and HIV infections continue to have a global impact, with an estimated 33.4 million people, including 2.1 million children, living with AIDS or HIV

infection, while over 25 million have died worldwide; and

WHEREAS:

AIDS and HIV infection continues to be a priority health concern in the United

States, with over 1.1 million Americans living with HIV infection and an

estimated 48,100 new HIV infections occurring yearly. In Minnesota, there have been 9,493 cases of HIV infection reported since 1982 and there are 6,814 people

currently known to be living with HIV; and

WHEREAS:

In Minnesota, gay men, communities of color, and American Indians continue to

have higher and disproportionate rates of HIV infection; and

WHEREAS:

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has designated an independent organization, World AIDS Campaign, to oversee and unite

global efforts to combat HIV and AIDS; and

WHEREAS:

In recognition of the fact that impacting this global epidemic requires a renewed and unified worldwide, national, and local effort, the World AIDS Campaign theme for World AIDS Day 2011, "Getting to Zero," aims to reduce new HIV infections, discrimination, and AIDS related deaths to zero; and

WHEREAS:

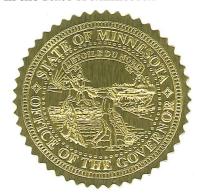
The fight against HIV infection and AIDS will only be won through increased advances and equal access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care; and Minnesotans are encouraged to educate themselves about the risks of HIV, know their HIV status through testing, get care if infected, and demonstrate

compassion for those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2011 as:

WORLD AIDS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16th day of November.



Mark Retchie

SECRETARY OF STATE